education apparently must depend upon and follow an increase In the taxable wealth of the country.

Within the limited financial resources of the country, however, the educational system that has been developed in the Philippines is'successfully serving the fundamental needs of the nation. The schools, colleges, and universities of the country have become effective means for the intellectual development and self-expression of the people- in the extension of general culture, and in civic, vocational, and professional education. The people of this country know that an educated citizenry is indispensable to the existence of a free, democratic, progressive state. I am confident that they will continue to press forward to the educational goals that were set a generation ago, and will not fail to support their schools to the limit of their resources, as an indispensable instrument in their national development. This determination has been written into the Constitution they have adopted as the supreme law of the future Philippine nation.

PUBLIC WORKS

Important as education is, however, in building the structure of strong national life, other elements were needed. Roads and transportation facilities and public works were required to develop trade and commerce, and to promote understanding and cooperation between communities and groups. The revenues of the state have been liberally and profitably employed in this direction, bringing to isolated communities the advantages of easy communication and the conveniences of modern civilization.

When the Americans came, nothing remained of the old Spanish road system but 990 miles of right of way, impassable in the rainy season and available for travel in the dry season only to a very limited extent.

Today the Philippines has 9,057.6 kilometers of first class roads; 4,831.1 kilometers of second class; 2,0094 kilometers of trails or a total of 20,826 kilometers (12,912.12 miles) of roads and trails rep-'resenting an investment of ^240,000,000.

There were 2,600 bridges and culverts in existence when Civil Government under American sovereignty was started; 5,500 others have been added at an expenditure of p25,ooo,ooo,

including such notable bridges as the Gilbert Bridge at Laoag, the Quirino Bridge spanning the Abra, the Plaridel Bridge in Pangasinan, and the General Luna Bridge at Cabanatuan.